

THE AGRAIAN



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FY2010 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM STATE BUDGET

\$47,170,135

- **Landowner/
Operator 66.05%**
\$31,156,712
- **Districts 25.73%**
\$12,135,263
- **State Administration, Research, &
Other 8.22%**
\$3,878,160

Effective July 1, 2009, the Andrew County SWCD is offering new cost-share practices to Andrew County landowners for soil and water erosion protection. The new programs and available funding are:

- *Nutrient Management* - \$33,000
- *Pest Management* - \$6,187
- *Groundwater Protection* - \$5,500
- *Irrigation Management* - \$1,760
- *Sensitive Areas* - \$19,800
- *Streambank Erosion* - \$3,300
- *Woodland Erosion* - \$3,025

These programs are in addition to pro-

grams the county has offered in the past. The funding for the remaining programs is:

- *Sheet and Rill and Gully Erosion* (This includes, terraces, structures, diversions, dry structures, waterways and seedings) - \$344,804.71
- *Grazing Management* - \$16,500

For detailed information on these new programs, please call our office at 816-324-3196, ext 3 or visit our website at: www.swcd.mo.gov/andrew.

Funding for all cost-share programs comes from the 1/10th of one percent Parks and Soils Tax.

IMPORTANT COST-SHARE POINTS

As the new fiscal year begins, a few reminders

- Landowner may receive a maximum of \$11,000 for cost share practices every other year.
- Practice must not start prior to board approval of the cost-share contract.
- All cost-share payments must be done electronically through direct deposit. A Vendor Input and Vendor ACH/EFT application must be submitted through the district office to complete the direct deposit process.
- The state is required to issue an IRS 1099 to the landowner for all cost-

share payments.

- Allocation of funding for all practices is done on a first-come first-serve basis when the crops are harvested and the field is ready to be surveyed.
- The sign-up process has been eliminated.



WINNERS ANNOUNCED!!!

For over twenty-five years the Andrew County SWCD has sponsored the Fourth Grade Poster Contest for county students. Each year the students create a poster depicting what they have learned at Conservation Connection, an outdoor classroom. The students rotate between five learning stations: Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife and Poster Contest Information.

The District is pleased to announce the class and county winners for 2009.

Amazonia - McKenzie

Beattie, Avenue City - Garret O'Riley **Helena** - Kathryn Goforth, **King City**: Austin Turner and Quinci Schottel, **John Glenn** - Gianna Magers and Hannah Riefhof **Minnie Cline** - Raelynn Hanna, Delaney McKnight,

Rebecca Mikula, and Ashley Mollus **North Andrew** - Allie Grace and Tucker Graham. Each student re-

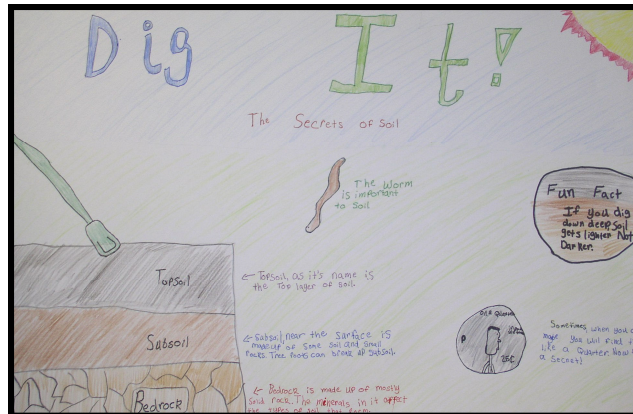
ceived a trophy for their accomplishment

The County winners were: **First Place** Garret O'Riley - **Second Place**—McKenzie Beattie, and **Third Place** - Kathryn Goforth. Garret O'Riley's poster will be sent to the state competition this fall.

The District also recognizes the class with the best overall poster designs. This year, Mrs. Sondra Ussary's class from Amazonia

was awarded "Best Class". Mrs. Ussary received a \$50.00 gift certificate to "Pigtails and Inkwells."

Congratulations Students!!



First Place Winner, Garrett O'Riley Avenue City

MAINTENANCE OF COST SHARE PROJECTS

Landowners who have received cost-share assistance for conservation practices within the last 5-10 years are under obligation to maintain those practices.

When a landowner signs a cost-share contract for payment, the landowner must properly maintain that practice for the life span of the project. If a practice is removed or modified so as to lessen its effectiveness without consent of the District Board of Supervisors during this time, the landowner shall refund to the State of Missouri the cost-share funds received on a pro-rated basis.

Those practices which have a ten year maintenance agreement are: terraces, structures, diversions, water and sediment control basins and waterways. Those that have a five year maintenance agreement are: seedings.

CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE REMINDER



This is a reminder from NRCS that Conservation Compliance does still exist. Everyone participating in USDA programs still

remind producers of conservation compliance prior to beginning harvest. This fall, please leave the tillage equipment in the shed and the crop residue on the surface once the harvest is finished. Be honest with yourself, if you consistently use the excuse that you only want to work in some ditches, and they are consistently in the same fields, you may want to consider building some terraces to help eliminate those gullies.

have an obligation to be compliant with the provision of the 1985 Food Security Act. To remain eligible to participate in USDA programs, which includes the Farm Service Agency's programs, landowners and operators must follow a conservation system and show how it reduces soil loss to acceptable limits.

In the late 1990's and early 2000's, many producers were no-till planting their crops (both corn and soybeans). No-till can have the single largest impact in reducing soil erosion and aid farmers with meeting conservation compliance. As time has progressed into the latter half of this decade, there appears to be less no-till planting.

Rodney Saunders, NRCS District Conservationist, wants to

The 2008 Farm Bill has shined new light on compliance. In prior years, we were able to use a five year tillage and crop rotation for compliance. However, in the passing of the 2008 Farm Bill when completing the conservation compliance status reviews, it is now required to look at 1) last year's residue and 2) this year's crop. Needless to say, with a little bit of tillage and no terraces this makes for a bad combination.

This a friendly reminder of compliance and think twice before working the ground this fall.

Are USDA programs worth it?

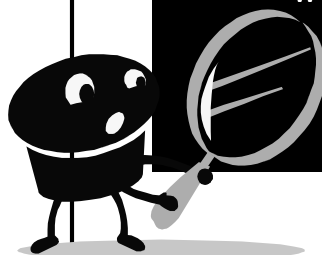
CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM—(CSP)

The USDA-NRCS is administering the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). The new and improved CSP is a nationwide, continuous sign-up with periodic cut-offs for ranking. Eligible participants must meet the minimum criteria to protect at least one resource concern (soil, water, plant, and/or animals) and address an additional resource concern by the end of the contract.

The lifespan of a contract is five years and will pay approximately \$18.10 per acre. For more information on CSP contact the Andrew County NRCS office by calling 816-324-3196, ext. 3 or visit the staff at the USDA Service Center in Savannah, Missouri.

2007 Ag Census Statistics for Andrew County

Number of Farms: 988
Land in Farms: 238,559 acres
Total Cropland: 169,859
Average Size of Farm: 241 acres
Harvested Acres: 137,680
Average age of farmer: 56.8



We are on the Web!

www.swcd.mo.gov/andrew

**Frequent updates on
programs, events and
helpful links.**



THINK LIKE A SQUIRREL



The last two springs have been difficult for upland wildlife management. Late winter weather, frequent rains, and soggy conditions have not been conducive to springtime field work. What can a wildlife manager do to avoid the late rush of springtime work? The answer is fall fieldwork. Usually fall weather is dry enough to allow fieldwork such as food plot preparation, firebreak installation, and shrub planting preparation.

Most landowners do not think about food plots until spring. However, fall is a great season to prepare future food plots. Spray or till new food plots this fall and they will be ready in the spring; perhaps only requiring a quick top dressing for weed control. If done early, food plots can be prepped and planted to green browse that will be ready for hunting season. Both grain plots and green browse plots are acceptable in CRP, just be ready to disturb them at least every other year.

Fall is a great time to consider prescribed burning. Burn plans can be developed, firebreaks can be prepared, and actual burns can be implemented.

Avoid the spring rush and get the firebreaks ready to go now. The late summer and fall is a great time to conduct prescribed burns on native stands. Native grass CRP can be burned from July 16 - March 15. Results from late season burns *prior* to native dormancy suggest that burning can stimulate dramatic flushes of forbs in grass-dominated stands. This provides a great way to add large areas of brood-rearing cover the next spring and diversifies future nesting cover. Trying a summer or fall burn on part native plantings can yield amazing results. Prior to starting any management on CRP acres, contact the Farm Service Agency office to verify conservation plans.

For hunters, fall is a wonderful season full of colorful leaves and anticipation of opening days. Just do not let the manager in you forget fall is the best time to do upland management. Think like a squirrel and take some time this fall to prepare!

Article provided by Missouri Department of Conservation

Cool Season Grasses and Legumes Planting Dates

- *Optimum:* 3/15 - 5/1 &
8/15 - 9/15
- *Acceptable:* 3/1 - 5/15 &
8/1 - 10/1
- *Dormant:* 12/15 - 3/1

Warm Season Grasses Planting Dates

- *Optimum:* 4/15 - 6/15
- *Acceptable:* 4/15 - 7/1
- *Dormant:* 11/15 - 3/1

RENTAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

The District has farm equipment available for rent. Please contact the SWCD office if interested in renting the following equipment: **No-Till Drill**, **Cultipacker**, **Mulcher**, **Seeder**, **ATV Seed Slinger**, **Soil Compactor**, **Probe** and **Burn Equipment**. Our website: www.swcd.mo.gov/andrew gives detailed information on each piece of equipment.





Have a safe and bountiful harvest !

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA'S TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (Voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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